

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 02540 060711Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 SS-15 TRSE-00 OMB-01
ABF-01 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 /068 W
-----010295 070226Z /61
R 060612Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2887
INFO USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 2540

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, UN, ECOSOC
SUBJECT: REPRESENTATION AT MAY UN OVERVIEW MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 86919 (NOTAL), (B) STATE 77068

1. SUMMARY: AUSTRALIAN DECISION ON LEVEL OF ATTENDANCE AT UN OVERVIEW MEETING IS CURRENTLY BOGGED DOWN IN BUREAUCRATIC HASSLE WITH WATCHDOG OVERSEAS VISITS COMMITTEE. END SUMMARY.

2. WHEN EMBOFF ORIGINALLY CALLED R. D. STURKEY, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS BRANCH, DFA, ABOUT LEVEL OF AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATION AT UN OVERVIEW MEETING, HE SAID THAT DEPARTMENT HAD NOMINATED HIM TO ATTEND, BUT THAT OVERSEAS VISITS COMMITTEE (OVC) WHICH STRICTLY CONTROLS ALL REQUESTS FOR OVERSEAS TRAVEL HAD TURNED DOWN THE APPLICATION FOR TRAVEL ON GROUNDS THAT MEETING COULD BE ADEQUATELY COVERED BY AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO UN.

3. STURKEY SAID THAT DFA HAD ALREADY DECIDED TO APPEAL AND THAT HINT THAT UNDER SECRETARY COOPER WAS CONSIDERING ATTENDING WOULD CONSIDERABLY STRENGTHEN CASE. HE ASSURED EMBOFF THAT DECISION OF OVC DID NOT REFLECT LACK OF AUSTRALIAN INTEREST IN OVERVIEW MEETING, BUT RATHER THE FACT THAT
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TRAVEL FUNDS EXTREMELY TIGHT AND AD HOC REQUESTS HAD TO TAKE BACKSEAT TO LONG SCHEDULED MEETINGS. STURKEY PROMISED TO KEEP US INFORMED AS MATTER PROGRESSES.

4. IF STURKEY UNABLE ATTEND, MEETING WILL BE COVERED BY AUSTRALIAN DEPUTY PERMANENT REP TO U.N. GREET.
ALSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CANBER02540
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780149-1008
Format: TEL
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780487/aaaacvrv.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3f9b5cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 86919, 78 STATE 77068
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3058831
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPRESENTATION AT MAY UN OVERVIEW MEETING
TAGS: EGEN, PORG, AS, UN, ECOSOC, OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3f9b5cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014